

Or...How to Make Everyday  
Household Decisions that  
will  
Protect our Streams, Rivers,  
Lakes, and Drinking Water...  
It's Up to You!

For More Information, Please Visit the Morris  
Township Website: [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com)

This brochure is a service provided by the Morris Township  
Environmental Commission.

### **WHAT IS STORM WATER POLLUTION?**

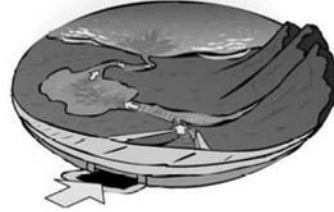
Storm water pollution is a form of nonpoint source pollution or pollution which comes from everyday activities such as littering, wrongful disposal of household hazardous products, changing motor oil, over fertilizing lawns and improperly managed farmland, washing cars, overuse of pesticides, and de-icing.

Every day we make decisions that can result either in water protection or

pollution.

Daily actions ranging from changing the oil in the family car to using a household cleaner to treating our lawns can all have an effect on the quality of water that flows from our yards, driveways, and roads into storm drains and ultimately our streams, rivers, lakes, and surface drinking water.

**Storm Drains**



## **EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN...**

### **1. KNOW YOUR STORM DRAIN**

Know where your storm drains are located .  
Please assist us by keeping the tops clean .



### **2. MANAGE YOUR YARD FOR CLEAN WATER**

Do not place piles of leaves, grass, or yard waste less than 10 feet from your storm drain. Grass and leaves that are washed down gutters and streets into storm drains make their way straight to area waterways. Yard debris adds unwanted and damaging nutrients to our streams, rivers, and lakes, in addition to clogging storm drains and accelerating flooding. Keep your storm drains clear and clean of yard debris and litter.



Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides. Test your soils to see if you need a fertilizer (contact Rutgers Extension & Research at 973-285-8308), and don't apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted. When using fertilizers, follow the directions and use slow-release fertilizers to prevent loss of nitrogen. For pesticide information, contact the office of New Jersey Pesticide Control at 609-984-6302.

Reduce your lawn. Use native trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers which require less water and fertilizers. Use native ground cover on slopes and stream banks to reduce run-off of water and erosion. Contact Morris County Park Commission's Horticulture Department at 973-326-7600.

### **3. NO HAZARDOUS WASTE!**

Hazardous products include many household and commercial cleaning products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints in addition to fertilizers and pesticides. Do not dispose of them in storm drains or let materials run into storm drains from your yard or driveway.



Consider using alternatives whenever it is possible. Use and dispose of hazardous waste appropriately:

Read the product label  
Recycle used motor oil  
Keep your car in good repair to eliminate leaking oil and antifreeze  
Contact the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority for hazardous waste recycling and disposal. Call them at 973-2858387 or visit their website at [www.mcmua.com](http://www.mcmua.com).

#### 4. CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

Yes, that's right! You are required to clean up your pet's waste in your yard as well as on the street, along trails, and in our parks. Use newspaper, bags, or pooper-scoopers to pick up pet waste. Dispose of it in a sealed bag for garbage pick-up, in specially marked receptacles in our parks, or flush it down the toilet into our municipal sewage treatment system. Remember, it's still sewage and we don't want it in our streams, river, lakes, and drinking water!



We hope that you and your family enjoy being Morris Township residents. As you know, being a resident of Morris Township also means being a good member of our community. As a good citizen, we ask that you do whatever you can, both at home and at work, to prevent pollutants from

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entering our rivers, streams, lakes, and drinking water.

We also hope that you find this brochure a useful tool that makes it easier for you to learn about and access information about our municipal storm water management program.

By following the "Easy Things You Can Do To Keep Our Water Clean," you will help reduce or eliminate pollutants from entering the drinking supply for your community, county, and neighbors in New Jersey.

For more information, please go to the [NJDEP web site at http://www.njdep.org/](http://www.njdep.org/)

Thank you.

H.Scott Rosenbush Mayor

Township Committee H. Scott Rosenbush, Mayor Daniel W. Caffrey, Deputy Mayor  
Ronald M. Goldberg Jeffrey R. Grayzel Raymond L. Snyder

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